

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE BEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3070

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: GREEK CYPRIOT REACTION TO SECRETARY'S UNGA SPEECH ON
CYPRUS

REF: NICOSIA 3068 (DTG 011530Z OCT 76)

GREEK CYPRIOT REACTION TO CYPRUS PORTION OF SECRE-
TARY'S UNGA SPEECH HAS RANGED FROM CAUTIOUS TO
NEGATIVE. GOC, FOLLOWING FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTO-
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PHIDES' CRITICISM OF US' SO-CALLED "POLICY OF

CARESS" TOWARD TURKEY (REFTEL), REACTED TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH AND PRINCIPLES WITH A POINTED "NO COMMENT."

2. ALL PAPERS REPORTED GOC'S "NO COMMENT" RESPONSE AND NOTED THAT GOC WOULD BE SEEKING "CLARIFICATIONS" AND WOULD COMMENT ON SECRETARY'S REMARKS IN CHRISTOPHIDES' UNGA SPEECH. USING IDENTICAL LANGUAGE, COMMUNIST HARAVGHI AND LEFTIST TA NEA LABELED SECRETARY'S STATEMENT "A SUSPICIOUS MANEUVER" DESIGNED TO UNDERMINE GOC RECOURSE TO UN, MISLEAD CONGRESS, AND LEAD CYPRUS INTO NATO TRAP. LEFTIST ELEFTHEROS LAOS REPORTED THAT KISSINGER STATEMENT WAS RECEIVED IN NICOSIA "WITH SKEPTICISM AND RESERVATIONS."

3. EDITORIAL REACTION WAS GENERALLY NEGATIVE. HARAVGHI ATTACKED THE KISSINGER PRINCIPLES AS NOTHING MORE THAN A "VERBAL EMBELLISHMENT" OF THE TURKISH SIDE'S "CRITERIA;" CRITICIZED BITSIOS' DESCRIPTION OF STATEMENT AS "VERY USEFUL," AND SAID THAT KISSINGER'S AIM WAS SIMPLY TO FORCE CYPRIOTS TO LEGALIZE BY THEIR SIGNATURE TURKISH FAITS ACCOMPLIS. ELEFTHEROS LAOS VICIOUSLY ATTACKED SECRETARY AS "BLOODTHIRSTY HANGMAN OF OUR COUNTRY" AND SAID NOTHING POSITIVE COULD BE EXPECTED FROM HIM. PHILELEFTHEROS, WHICH REFLECTS MAKARIOS' VIEWS, EDITORIALIZED THAT "OF COURSE THE PRINCIPLES OUT-LINED BY DR KISSINGER SHOULD BE STUDIED CAREFULLY AND IN A SOBER MANNER" AND THEN MOVED QUICKLY ON TO ENDORSE CHRISTOPHIDES' CRITICISM OF THE "POLICY OF CARESS." OPINION COLUMN IN SAME PAPER, WARMING TO THE SEXUAL CONNOTATIONS OF THE NEWLY-COINED PHRASE, RIDICULED SECRETARY'S STATEMENT AND POINTED OUT THAT SUCH A POLICY WAS LIKELY TO MAKE THE TURKS MORE DEMANDING.

4. RIGHTIST MAKHI TERMED THE PRINCIPLES A DEBATABLE FORMULA BUT WELCOMED SECRETARY'S REMARKS AS DECLARATION OF OPPOSITION TO TURKISH FAITS ACCOMPLIS IN CYPRUS AND SAID GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD BE IDIOTS TO REJECT

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THE PRINCIPLES AND TO UNDERMINE THE "SADAT WAY" TOWARD A SETTLEMENT. INDEPENDENT BUT GENERALLY PRO-CLERIDES SIMERINI AVOIDED DIRECT COMMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES BUT NOTED SECRETARY'S APPARENT DETERMINATION TO HELP A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, BITSIOS' FAVORABLE REMARKS, AND POSSIBILITY THAT SOMETHING SERIOUS COULD EMERGE FROM A NEW AMERICAN INITIATIVE.

5. COMMENT: GOC'S "NO COMMENT" REACTION TO SECRETARY'S STATEMENT CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH THAT OF GOG AND IS READ HERE AS A PUBLICLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE. AS IS SO OFTEN THE CASE HERE, MAKARIOS SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO PLAY IT BOTH WAYS, APPEARING TO REMAIN DETACHED AND UNCOMMITTED WITH A LOFTY "NO COMMENT," WHILE LETTING THE PRESS DO HIS WORK FOR HIM IN CREATING A GENERALLY NEGATIVE REACTION. WE SEE LINKAGE OF "POLICY OF CARESS" THEME AND KISSINGER PRINCIPLES IN MAKARIOS' MOUTH-PIECE PHILELEFTHEROS AS INDICATION THAT GOC (MAKARIOS), FAR FROM WANTING TO CURTAIL USE OF CHRISTOPHIDES' DISTASTEFUL PHRASE MAY ACTUALLY BE FINDING IT A USEFUL ADDITION TO ITS ANTI-US LEXICON.
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